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(b) whether he did any party or propaganda work during those tours; and

(c) if so, whether he paid for those parts of the tours from his own pocket, and if not, why not?

A.—(a) Several places in North Arcot, Tanjore, Nellore, Chingleput, Trichinopoly, Madura, Salem, Coimbatore, Ganjam and Vizagapatam districts and Northern India, Inspections, interviews, conferences and addresses in connexion with the departments of Government, particularly of those in his charge.

(b) & (c) No.

Visit of the hon. the Minister for Public Health to Kashmir.

*312 Q.—Mr. S. Satyamurti: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) the nature of the official business which took him to Kashmir; and

(b) the cost to the public exchequer of his tour to Kashmir?

A.—It was a private visit and at private cost.

Mr. S. Satyamurti —" May I know whether the hon. the Minister took the permission of His Excellency the Governor to go to Kashmir?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar:—" No."

Mr. S. Satyamurti:—" May I know for how long he stayed there?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar:—" For four days, Sir."

Industries

Verification and testing of weights and scales in cotton ginning and pressing factories.

*313 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the rules now in force regarding the verification and testing of weights and scales in cotton ginning and pressing factories;

(b) whether the Provincial Cotton Committee, Madras, considered the limits of permissible errors to be too narrow for a bulky article like cotton and recommended the adoption of the Bombay system in Madras also; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

A.—(a) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the Madras Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Rules, 1925, published on page 1536 of Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 18th August 1925, and to the instructions in Board's Standing Order No. 204 as amended which the officers examining and testing the accuracy of weights and scales in use in cotton ginning and pressing factories have been requested to follow.

(b) The answer is in the affirmative.

(c) The Government are awaiting a detailed report from the Director of Agriculture on the subject.